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***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****

BODY

SUBJECT: LATIN AMERICA BRIEF [REDACTED] FOR 14 OCTOBER
1993.

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2. [REDACTED]

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CEDRAS'S PLANS

ARMY CHIEF CEDRAS ON TUESDAY SUGGESTED THAT HE WILL RETIRE TOMORROW AS SCHEDULED, ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS; HE HAS ALSO SAID, HOWEVER, THAT HE WILL STEP DOWN ONLY AFTER THE LEGISLATURE PASSES AN AMNESTY LAW. [REDACTED] THE PRESIDENT PLANS TO NAME A NEW COMMANDER TOMORROW. CEDRAS AND OTHER MILITARY LEADERS REPORTEDLY WILL SEND A LETTER TO THE UN THAT EXPRESSES WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE WITH THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND REQUESTS AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLAIN THEIR POSITION TO UN OFFICIALS IN NEW YORK. [REDACTED]

COMMENT: CEDRAS UNDOUBTEDLY WILL FEEL TREMENDOUS PRESSURE FROM THE RANK AND FILE NOT TO RETIRE. IF HE DOES STEP DOWN, HIS REPLACEMENT WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE SAME PRESSURES FROM THE ENLISTED MEN AND THE RIGHT TO OBSTRUCT ARISTIDE'S RETURN AND, UNLESS BACKED BY INCREASED OUTSIDE PRESSURE, WILL HAVE LITTLE CHANCE TO FORCE POLICE CHIEF FRANCOIS TO RESIGN. IN THE LETTER TO THE UN, CEDRAS PROBABLY WILL EMPHASIZE THE MILITARY'S SECURITY CONCERN AND MAY EVEN, IN AN ATTEMPT TO STALL REIMPOSITION OF AN OIL EMBARGO, PROMISE CONCESSIONS. [REDACTED]

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